

January 4, 1982

Memo to File:

RE: Chevron Resources Phosphate  
Operation  
ACT/047/007  
Uintah County, Utah

Joe Helfrich, Gilbert Hunt and Sandy Pruitt were given a brief tour of the Chevron Phosphate mine operation by Fred Riding and Jim Jenkins of Chevron on September 29, 1981. The visit was prompted by a citizen's complaint regarding increased production and limited reclamation, no topsoil protection, no preservation of wildlife migration routes and no surface and ground water quality protection in the mine area.

Panel A in the east section of Camp Canyon was mined in early 1981. As the company does not plan to progress mining further, for at least 10 years, reclamation of the pit was requested. Reclamation test plots established with assistance from the Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service and Wildlife Resources were observed having variable yet predominantly marginal success over time periods ranging from two to five years.

Active operations up Hole-in-The-Wall Canyon consisted of mining (which was not shown to the inspectors) and construction of a sag mill. The ephemeral drainage down Hole-in-The-Wall Canyon has been filled in by pad construction for the mill. Brush Creek Gorge was culverted to obtain access up the canyon without DOGM acknowledgement.

After the tour, inspectors traveled north along Highway 44 where the active mining operation was easily observable and the citizen's complaints readily verifiable. There was no evidence of topsoil being salvaged in the cut and fill development. The ephemeral drainage channel was totally obstructed by the fill and the mining up Hole-in-The-Wall Canyon had progressed to a disturbance over twice the extent as that left unreclaimed in Camp Canyon.

Mr. Riding was informed of reclamation requirements and requested to update the approved Mining and Reclamation Plan.

A more thorough tour and inspection was evidently necessary as a result of the visit.

SANDY PRUITT   
RECLAMATION OFFICER

SP/btb